TEMPLE CHURCH, LONDON.—The *Globe* quotes from a contemporary correspondence the following extract as to the air of this church:—"Exhalations from a churchyard in the open air are bad enough, but when the corruptions of the grave emit themselves directly into the church it is infinitely worse. These are the facts from an eye-witness. The Benchers' vault is under the Master's garden, but the entrance to it is from the church, which is divided from it only by a door. The door has a key-hole, and over it there is a piece of iron, which, when the key is out, is, of course, over the hole. That part of the iron which faces the hole is covered with a rich black coat of stuff like tar or shell varnish, which exudes from the dead Benchers inside, and must, of course, also escape into the church. *Persons are constantly fainting during the service, owing, doubtless, to this nuisance; and a friend of mine, a member of the Inn, never enters the church, because he always feels there a fulness of blood about the head*—a sensation which I have also experienced from the same cause. This is really too bad; and I should have addressed you before this, but I had forgotten to do so, and was only reminded of it this day by hearing the bell toll for, I suppose, another addition to this legal charnel-house, which ought not only to be closed, but filled up with chalk and lime."

SUBSTITUTE FOR THE MARINE GLUE.—An excellent transparent substance, well adapted to replace the marine glue of Jeffrey for many purposes, particularly where a transparent joint is required, as in the union of pieces of glass, invented by Mr. S. Lenher, Philadelphia, was exhibited at the monthly meeting of the Franklin Institute (September 8, 1850), and its properties explained. From its transparency, it was suggested by the chairman, Mr. G. W. Smith, as admirably adapted for the union of the parts of polyzonal lenses and rings. Small glass boxes, for containing microscopic objects, united by it, were shown, and gave much satisfaction. The composition of the cement is as follows:—Caoutchouc 15 grains, chloroform 2 ounces, mastic half an ounce. The two first-named ingredients are to be first mixed: after the gum is dissolved the mastic is added, and the whole allowed to macerate for a week, which is about the time required for the solution of the mastic in the cold. More of the caoutchouc may be added where great elasticity is desirable. The convenience of its application with a brush, cold, recommends it for approval. —*Franklin Journal.*

FIRST CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCOTCH NATIONAL GALLERY.—The first donation to the Edinburgh National Gallery was received a few days since from Mr. Wardrop, of London. It consists of a picture by Vandermuller, and the "Beheading of John the Baptist," by Domenichino Neri.

EFFECT OF PATENT LAWS.—POOR INVENTORS.—With reference to "W. L.'s" suggestion for an economic water-closet, if it were not for the unjust extortions of the patent laws, the public could be supplied with one much more simple and considerably less expensive than any one now in use, requiring no cistern, or wires, cranks, stop-cocks, or other expensive fittings, the whole being complete within itself. But as the inventor is only a mechanic, and has not the means to pay fees required under the patent laws, so as to secure some trifling remuneration for his labour, it cannot be brought out.—A. PLUMBER.

MANUFACTURE OF "BATH BRICKS."—At a conversazione of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, held last month, in Taunton, Mr. W. Baker read a paper on the deposits of the river Parrett. He dwelt on the economical advantages presented by them, remarking there were made from them 8,000,000 bricks every year, the value of which at present amounted to 12,000*l.* or 13,000*l.* The number of persons employed was very great. Sometimes a man, his wife, and four or five children, were kept at work at one moulding, and thus they could often get as much as 2*l.* per week. This deposit was not found anywhere in the world besides, so that Bridgewater had to furnish the whole world with it; and it was remarkable that these "Bath bricks" were just as well known in China as in England. They were known in India, and all over the world.

GREENWICH-PARK.—Without doubt you as well as myself have been in Greenwich-park, and have walked from the Observatory to Blackheath, and have seen the unsightly old brick wall that parts the park from Blackheath, with a pair of gloomy gates for a grand entrance. We are promised this year a visit from all the civilised nations on the earth, and some will, I think, visit the pet park of the Cockney, and will wonder why that wall is not removed; it is no ornament and no use, save to help form a rabbit warren. Now, Sir, as rabbits are cheap enough, let them be destroyed, the wall pulled partly down and sold, and a light iron railing put in its place, which will greatly improve the place.—P. W.

THE TAMWORTH PEEL TESTIMONIAL.—The Tamworth committee for erecting a testimonial to the late Sir R. Peel have finally settled to have a bronze statue erected on a pedestal in the centre of the Market-place, at the cost, with railings, &c. of 1,000*l.*

BRISTOL SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS.—A meeting was held by this society on the evening of Monday, the 6th inst., when a paper was read by Mr. Bindon on the Dilapidated Remains of Ecclesiastical Architecture in Bristol. A conversation afterwards took place, by the fellows of the society present, on the Exhibition Building, and its construction was commented on by them and many of the builders present.

THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE.—It is pleasing to see the troops of people who avail themselves of the liberality of the University by visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum upon the two open days in the week, and more especially upon the Saturdays, when the town is filled with inhabitants of the country. No less than 46,273 have visited this noble building during the past year.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Line of Friezes in Entablatures.—In the entablature of a building where the architrave, frieze, and cornice are used, the architrave having one or more fascias, is it usual to place the line of frieze directly over any of these fascias, and in advance of the line of wall below? If so, where can the examples to be found? W. W.

*** It is not usual, but instances of such an arrangement are not wanting. In Greek architecture, the Temple of Jupiter Olympius affords an example.

"J. C." "Milo." "J. H." "W. M." "Mr. C." "J. S." "P. P." "W. G." (Mr. Moseley). "R. T." (there is no institution in London that would be available). "J. P." "A." "Young Lady." "C. M." "Double X." "J. F." (thanks, but not decided). "A. Z." (need not take a licence for making out builders' accounts). "Fitch." "S. H." "Hater of Humbug." "J. P." Putney (Portland cement is very variable. Some of it is not worth the cask that holds it). "King's Arms." Westminster (C. is right). "Z. K." (there is no precise chemical proportion; the ingredients mix indefinitely, but the resin or pitch may be added more freely than the others, and a good coating still got). "C. H." (we are not willing to aid in blocking up the Park). "F. D." (gives no information. The application of electricity to protection of houses has already been made). "A Student of the Society." "J. W." "W. J." "W. H. C." (next week). "P. D." Gosport (we believe common putty is used. Each pane is chipped by the mahher, which is put in *after* the pane of glass is laid). "Jonathan" (the "Royal Society" sell No. 4 catalogues; to what society does he allude?). "A. P. C." "J. G. D." "C. R. S." (the "Museum" has not reached us). "J. B." (will not overlook it).

"*Books and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Office of Metropolitan Buildings,
6, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, 9th January, 1851.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Examiners appointed by and in pursuance of the Metropolitan Buildings Act will hold their next Examination of persons desirous to obtain a Certificate of qualification for the Office of District Surveyor on Thursday, the 30th day of January instant.

Persons desirous to be examined must apply on or before the 6th instant, and their applications must be accompanied by a preliminary statement according to the course of examination prescribed in the rules for that purpose, copies of which, and any information on the subject, may be had at this Office, or of Mr. WEALE'S, Architectural Bookseller, 59, High Holborn.

Subsequent examinations will be held in the months of April, July, and October, or at such other periods as shall be appointed, of which due notice will be given.

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